

CLASSIFICATION SECRET

COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

TOPIC Military Information from Wittenberg

EVALUATION [REDACTED] 25X1 PLACE OBTAINED [REDACTED] 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT 2 to 14 May 1953

DATE OBTAINED 25X1 [REDACTED] DATE PREPARED 2 June 1953

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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[REDACTED] 1. From 2 to 14 May 1953, the Flak Kaserne in Wittenberg was occupied by a rear detail of about 90 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets, including some with tank insignia. On 4 May, tanks were maintained and cleaned in the tank repair shop. T-43 tank [REDACTED] was in the repair shop and another T-43 tank was in front of the repair shop. On 5 May, a T-43 tank [REDACTED] left the installation toward Euper, apparently for a test driving. Two T-43 tanks were in front of the repair shop. The shed in which the driving school vehicles were stored, was open. Crane truck [REDACTED] truck [REDACTED] and jeep [REDACTED] were identified in the installation. ¹

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2. Prior to 14 May, the Arado installation was occupied by about 250 troops, including some with tank insignia. On 2 May, 8 officers and about 200 troops, organized in four columns, left the Tauntzien Kaserne toward the Arado installation. At 5 p.m. on 3 May, about 200 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets including some with tank insignia, left the Arado installation toward the town. On 4 May, 3 T-34 and T-43 tanks were seen leaving toward the Teuchel training area. At 3 p.m., 1 JS-1 tank, 1 JS-3 tank and 1 JSU-249 gun were seen at driving practice at the training grounds. At 3 p.m. on 5 May, 16 armored vehicles, including T-34 tanks, T-43 tanks, JS-1 and JS-3 tanks and JSU-249 guns were seen in the area of the Arado installation.

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3. Prior to 14 May, the Beseler Kaserne was occupied by a rear detail of about 90 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets. ¹ The rear detail furnished the guard personnel for the Tauntzien Kaserne which was completely vacant. It is of interest that, in 1952, the Beseler Kaserne had been vacant and the guard personnel came from the Tauntzien Kaserne. ³ The settlement buildings in Apollendorf of the former ammunition plant, which had been occupied by KVF, had been vacated and were occupied by the Soviet Army. ⁴

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4. From 11 to 14 May, the Beseler Kaserne was occupied by a guard detail of an estimated 250 to 300 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets.

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Trucks [] were seen en route to the installation. ¹

5. Prior to 14 May, the Flak Kaserne was occupied by a guard detail of an estimated 300 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia. []

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6. Prior to 14 May, the engineer training site on Dresdener Strasse was not being utilized, whereas the former police installation in Apollensdorf, which consisted of five three-story quartering buildings, each about 50 meters long, was occupied by an estimated 3,000 troops who wore black-bordered black epaulets, including some with engineer insignia. The location of the motor pool of this unit could not be determined. ⁴

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7. From 4 to 10 May, the Arado installation was occupied by about 400 to 500 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia. On 4 May, two JS-3 tanks were seen leaving the installation. At about noon, three columns of about 100, 80, and 50 soldiers marched from the Arado installation to the Tauntzien Kaserne. On 10 May, 4 JS-3 tanks []

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[] 8 T-34/85 tanks [] and 20 tank-truck trailers were seen in the billeting area. ²

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- 25X1 [] Comment. The information [] on the strength of the rear details stationed in the installations mentioned check with information by [] The strength figures given [] are believed too high. []

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[] Comment. [] unidentified tank training battalion of the 6th Gds Tank Div in the Arado installation until 13 May 1953. []

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[] Comment. The information on the occupation of the Tauntzien Kaserne and the statement on the occupation of the installations mentioned, in 1952, are correct. It appears that this year the 120th Gds Engr Bn and the 145th Gds Sig Bn of the 6th Gds Tank Div were transferred to Justerbo, along with the division headquarters. Vague indications are that these units are quartered in the east section of the Fuchsberg Kaserne, which previously housed elements of the 14th Gds Mecz Div. []

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[] Comment. According to other reports, the 35th Engr Regt (US) of the Third Gds Mecz Army was transferred to Apollensdorf between Coswig and Wittenberg. [] The regiment, in the preceding years, had conducted its summer training at the engineer training site east of Wittenberg, mentioned in paragraph 5 of this report.

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[] Comment. [] 3d Gds Tank Regt of the 6th Gds Tank Div in the Flak Kaserne in Wittenberg until 25 March 1953.

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COUNTRY Austria REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

TOPIC General Military Information

EVALUATION [REDACTED] 25X1 PLACE OBTAINED [REDACTED] 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT 13 to 15 May 1953

DATE OBTAINED [REDACTED] DATE PREPARED 8 June 1953

REFERENCES [REDACTED] 25X1

PAGES 1 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) [REDACTED]

REMARKS [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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1. On 13 May 1953, little activity and only seven trucks were observed at the Fasangarten Kaserne near Goetzendorf (P 49/X 57). Probably the post was vacated.¹
2. On 13 May, no artillery pieces and a total of 15 trucks were observed at the cantonment east (No 1) of Kaisersteinbruch (P 48/X 67). Only sentries with red-bordered black and black-bordered red epaulets and soldiers engaged in athletics were seen. The cantonment east (No 1) of Kaisersteinbruch and the cantonment west (N 2) of Kaisersteinbruch were believed to be vacant.¹

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3. On 15 May, 35 to 40 AA guns of 37 mm and about 55 motor vehicles were parked in the area of Camp Apetlon (P 48/X 74). Soldiers repaired the roads in and around the camp which were damaged by heavy rain. Trucks [REDACTED] driven by soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets, were observed hauling gravel. Jeep [REDACTED] and sidecar motorcycle [REDACTED] driven by soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets entered the installation. No troop trains were observed on the Parndorf (P 43/X 77) - Wallern (P 48/X 84) railroad line.²

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4. On 13 May, [REDACTED] a troop train [REDACTED] went from St. Poelten (O 49/W 88) to Wallern. The train consisted of 18 converted boxcars and 4 boxcars.²

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[REDACTED] Comment. The observations indicating that the Soviet troops had left Goetzendorf and Kaisersteinbruch are identical with similar reports from other posts. [REDACTED] It is believed that the units moved to summer camps, probably at the Doellersheim troop training grounds.

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[REDACTED] Comment. Apetlon is an AAA range used by Soviet units stationed in Austria and in Hungary. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] The report on the troop train from St. Poelten to Wallern on 13 May 1953 also indicates that contingents of the 95th Gds Mtz Rifle Div, probably the 997th AAA Bn, moved to Apetlon for firing practices.

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